

Fall 1949

QUARTERLY

News-Letter

VOLUME XIV

NUMBER 4

A Letter and What Came of It

A Resume of Club Activities

Stirrings of Folk-Lore in So. California

by Franklin Walker

Leonardo da Vinci's Library

by Dr. Elmer Belt

Samuel T. Farquhar

Elected to Membership

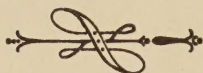
News of Publications

Miscellany



*Published for its members by The Book Club
of California, 549 Market Street,
San Francisco*

The Book Club of California



FOUNDED IN 1912, The Book Club of California is a non-profit association of booklovers and collectors who have a special interest in Pacific Coast history, literature, and fine printing. Its chief aims are to further the interests of book collectors in the West and to promote an understanding and appreciation of fine books.

The Club is limited to seven hundred and fifty members. When vacancies exist membership is open to all who are in sympathy with its aims and whose applications are approved by the Board of Directors. Regular Membership involves no responsibilities beyond payment of the annual dues of \$12.00. Dues date from the month of the member's election.

Members receive the *Quarterly News-Letter* and all parts of the current keepsake series, *California Clipper Cards*. They have the privilege, but not the obligation, of buying the Club publications which are limited, as a rule, to one copy per member.

Officers & Directors

GEORGE L. HARDING, *President*

OSCAR LEWIS, *Vice President*

CARROLL T. HARRIS, *Treasurer*

FLODDEN W. HERON, *Honorary Secretary*

MISS EDITH M. COULTER, *Chairman, Publication Committee*

ALBERT SPERISEN, *Chairman, Keepsake Committee*

MRS. JOHN I. WALTER, *Chairman, Membership Committee*

EDGAR WAITE, *Chairman, House Committee*

T. M. LILIENTHAL, *Librarian*

FRANCIS P. FARQUHAR

MORGAN A. GUNST

JOSEPH HENRY JACKSON

MRS. ELIZABETH DOWNS, *Secretary*

News-Letter Editorial Committee

LEWIS ALLEN

H. RICHARD ARCHER

JACKSON BURKE

JAMES D. HART

Subscription to the *Quarterly News-Letter* is included in the dues. Extra copies, when available, are sold to members at 50c each.



A Letter and What Came of It

A RESUMÉ OF CLUB ACTIVITIES

IN LATE June, by direction of the board of directors, a letter was sent members outlining a plan for remodeling the Club office and stating that preparations were under way to finance the project by issuing sometime this fall a book concerning the great English printer, Wynkyn de Worde. Members were asked to help speed the program by placing advance subscriptions for this publication and, if convenient, by enclosing cash with their orders.

It is a pleasure to report that the response to this invitation exceeded our most sanguine expectations. In moments of optimism it was estimated that about half the edition of 375 copies would be subscribed in advance and that perhaps a hundred orders would be accompanied by checks. As it turned out, the orders topped the 300 mark during the first three weeks, and before a month was out the entire edition had been spoken for. Moreover, practically all the orders (save only those from libraries, which have hard-and-fast rules against paying in advance) were accompanied by payment in full.

The Book Club of California

In expressing its appreciation for this extremely prompt and generous response, the Club is happy to report that the Wynkyn de Worde "Leaf Book" is now nearing completion at the Grabhorn shop, and that it promises to justify fully the expectations of those who confidently ordered (and paid for) their copies far in advance of publication.

It is gratifying, too, to be able to announce that the Club's modernization program has been proceeding on schedule, with the new cabinets, display cases, book-shelves and built-in office equipment due to be installed in early September. The completion of this work will make it possible to carry out a further plan that has been long in contemplation. This is the inauguration of a series of Saturday afternoon gatherings designed to permit members to acquaint themselves more fully with the Club and its services, to share their collecting interests with others, and to make use of the bibliographical reference works the Club will presently provide.

This venture is frankly experimental, and whether or not it will be continued depends on the response of the members. If they enjoy these informal weekly meetings they will be continued; if, after a thorough trial, it grows clear that they are serving no useful purpose, the experiment will be abandoned. In any event, beginning October 8th, and continuing until further notice, the Club will remain open Saturday afternoons and members (both resident and out-of-town) are cordially invited to drop in to examine the new quarters, to view the exhibits on display, and to meet their fellow collectors.

Closely allied with the foregoing is a plan now being formulated for the establishment of a Club library. Included in the modernization scheme are ample book-cases, and it is the hope over a period of time to fill the shelves with a collection of volumes carefully selected with a single aim in view; to be of the greatest usefulness to the maximum number of members.

To this end, a Library Committee has been appointed, the members of which are unanimously agreed that what they should strive for is a specialized book collectors' library—but there the unanimity ends. A variety of suggestions have been put forth: that it be limited to bibliographical reference tools; that it be a collection of Western typography, past and present; that it con-

Quarterly News Letter

fine its field to books on collecting, or on printing, binding and type design, or that it be a combination of any two or more of these subjects.

Finally, the suggestion was made that the Club, before committing itself to any of these plans, present the problem to the members themselves, asking what sort of library will prove most interesting and useful to them. Accordingly, a questionnaire is now being prepared and will go out to members soon. When it arrives, the Library Committee hopes each member will take a few moments to register his preferences in order that the books may be selected, not by guesswork, but in accordance with an informed and carefully considered plan.

Stirrings of Folk-Lore in Southern California

BY FRANKLIN WALKER *

AS THE Southern California communities lay sleeping in the sun during the fifties, with violence and intrigue in the shadows, and whispers of future booms off stage, events were taking place which were to work their way into the folklore of the region. A shipwreck, a lynching, or a practical joke animated the gossip of the day, starting yarns that were carried from pueblo to rancho, or from the trail to the newly sprouting squatter towns. There was so much evanescent oral tradition involved in such folk tales as Derby's shifting of the San Diego *Herald's* politics when the editor was out of town or in the exploits of the near-mythical Joaquin Murieta that it is hard for the reader today to evaluate the impact of these episodes on the thinly-spread population. Many of the stories have been handed down by word of mouth; countless others have doubtless disappeared. When one reads two separate accounts of duels forced against cravens by the fabulous Colonel Macgruder, one in San Diego and one in Los Angeles, and hears that both were fought with dummy bullets made of

* Franklin Walker, Reinhardt Professor of American Literature at Mills College, is the author of several books dealing with Western writers. Under a Rockefeller grant for Southwest research at the Huntington Library, he has been working on a study of the emerging cultural pattern in southern California. Mr. Walker is now en route to Uppsala, Sweden, to become visiting Lecturer in American Language and Literature, 1949-1950.

The Book Club of California

corks, one suspects that the yarning was further developed than the fact. On the other hand, one contemplates the facts which bore on the folklore, often failing to reach more formal literary levels.

There was, for instance, the Pacific Southwest's most celebrated contribution to the scores of Indian captivity stories which form a special branch of American literature. This was the captivity of Olive Oatman, captured by the Apaches in 1851 when they attacked the Oatman family on the Gila River as they were journeying to Southern California. One of many examples of marauding Indians molesting small emigrant parties on the Southern desert route from Tucson, this seemed particularly brutal because of the massacre of the parents and four of the children by the ruthless savages. One boy escaped to El Monte. Two girls, Olive, who was thirteen, and Mary Ann, who was seven, were marched over hundreds of miles in their bare feet and treated as slaves by the most cruel of the southwest Indians. Later they were traded to the Mohaves, a more peaceful tribe who lived some three hundred miles up the Colorado from Fort Yuma. There Mary Ann died of malnutrition and Olive, adopted by a friendly chief and his tender-hearted squaw, learned to cultivate her gourds and submitted to being tattooed with disfiguring lines from mouth to chin. But, as she wept constantly and as food was scarce, the Mohaves were glad to exchange her for a gift of beads and blankets which a messenger brought from Fort Yuma.

She was soon brought to El Monte, near Los Angeles, where she told her story in an interview which appeared in the *Los Angeles Star* on April 19, 1856. Later she was taken to Oregon by relatives and on the way told her story once again (she had told it many times in between) to a Reverend R. B. Stratton of Yreka, California, who wrote a sentimental book titled *Captivity of the Oatman Girls* which appeared in San Francisco in 1857 and was reprinted elsewhere in the East, selling thirty thousand copies in two years. Thus, folk throughout the country could thrill when Olive made such unlikely statements as: "Food was offered me, but how could I eat to prolong a life I now loathed." Those closer at hand shuddered as they remembered their own narrow escapes on the desert and contemplated her story to the *Star* reporter of seeing captive Cocopa Indians crucified in a native dance. Doubt-

Quarterly News-Letter

less they also pondered her assurance that she was not "made a wife" by the Indians, for their theories would be otherwise. As for Olive, she fast relearned her English (though she seemed somewhat mentally retarded) and demonstrated she could sew like a mantua-maker; years later, she married and settled down to a quiet domestic life, disproving the more logical rumor-mongers who insisted she had been placed in an insane-asylum.

Again the trials of the overland crossing were made vivid when, late in 1857, word reached Los Angeles of the Mountain Meadows Massacre. Indians and Mormons had been involved in wiping out almost all of a party of Arkansas emigrants on their way to Los Angeles by the Salt Lake trail. This notorious massacre, which took place at about the point where the Sand Walking party had taken the ill-fated cut-off eight years before, temporarily closed one of the main routes of approach to Southern California and caused the Mormon community of San Bernardino, twelve hundred strong, to pack up and return to Salt Lake. The Southern California papers were filled with editorials about Brigham Young and his Danites and "avenging angels" and there was much hope that the federal government would allow the Californians to organize a battalion to march to Deseret and hang the villains "upon the highest peaks of the overhanging mountains," there to "remain suspended in the frigid atmosphere of the mountain tops, as an example from ocean to ocean of retributive justice." More practical members of the community rushed to San Bernardino to buy land and equipment at bargain prices. Immediate literary response to the incident took the form of doggerel verse such as that which appeared in the *Star*:

A heart-rending *scene* to all that can *hear*,
For the maidens that died their *beaus* shall not fear,
They will come to the mountains their *love's bones* to see
That lies bleached on the grounds by the sad *massacre*.

An incident which went through a good many retellings in print and doubtless many more in oral tradition was the finding of the wild woman of San Nicolas Island. For eighteen years, from 1835 to 1853, this Indian woman lived alone on a rocky island seventy miles off the Santa Barbara coast. Isaac Sparks of the twenty-ton *Peor es Nada* left her there when he removed some eighteen natives from the island at the request of the padres; his

The Book Club of California

story was that she had gone to search for her child, and the hunters were forced to put to sea because of rough weather. It seems Sparks intended to return for her, but the *Peor es Nada* was wrecked on its next voyage and there were no other ships on the coast large enough to make the trip. Apparently, all during the period that the woman was isolated the folks ashore knew of her existence though there was some speculation that she might have starved or been eaten by the wild dogs "with human eyes" who were her companions on the lonely island. Eventually, George Nidever, a mountain-man who had come West with Joseph R. Walker, put in at San Nicolas to hunt sea-gull eggs and there saw signs of human habitation and even caught a glimpse of a "beckoning ghost." On a later trip, encouraged by the church authorities, he made a thorough search and found the woman, who was living in a hut made of whale-bones and brush. Though she appeared old and her teeth were worn to the gums, she was very friendly and her first act was to offer her guests two varieties of roasted roots. It was evident that she had been resourceful during her stay, as she had made shag-skin clothes, baskets, water bottles, and fish-hooks for her use, had tamed some of the dogs, and had remained healthy on seal blubber and wild plants. Taken to Santa Barbara, she danced and chattered for the amazed inhabitants, but, as no Indian could be found who spoke her language, she could not tell of her experiences as a female Robinson Crusoe. She lived for about seven weeks after reaching company; however, green vegetables and fruits, which she could not resist, proved too much of a change for one accustomed to blubber and roots. Just before her death, tradition has it she was baptised under the name Juana Maria Peor es Nada (Better than Nothing).

As time went on legends developed about her. In a quarter of a century, she had become young and comely, her uncouth smock had turned into an iridescent, low-necked gown of green cormorant feathers, and her return for her child had become a plunge into the dangerous surf; she was "one who voluntarily breasted the waves, and fought death, in response to the highest love of which the human heart is capable." During the short time that she lived with the Nidevers at Santa Barbara, we are told that many travellers came to see her. What questions they must have wanted to ask. Robinson Crusoe had not been too far from

Quarterly News-Letter

the imagination of the '49er, particularly those who had come around the Horn, and more than one curious emigrant had stopped at Juan Fernandez Islands, off Chile, and had looked for signs of the lonely four-year vigil of Alexander Selkirk. As time went on, the stark footprints that Nidever had found on San Nicolas were softened to "the prints of slender, naked feet" in the California moonlight. Today the story takes its logical place in the folklore of a region which named one of its towns, Tarzana.

Here was a land where Indians, Mexicans, and gringos added to the folklore through their imperfect understanding of each other's speech. Legend told of Father Serra's one glimpse of the magic city of the Mohaves, with its turrets and hanging gardens. A grizzled Indian, who squatted out his old age at Tehachipi told, in language which whistled through his teeth like the wind through the pass, of the days when the Mohave basin was a valley of perpetual bloom which nourished a fine civilization, still there when Serra was about. Then, after days of winds from the west, from the east, from the south and from the north, the dread *ventarron*, or whirlwind, blew "till the mountains rattled in their sockets like teeth in an ancient skull." After the *ventarron* pushed the mountains around like a vaquero herding cattle, the floods came and turned the former paradise into its present desolation. Even the late-comer, the emigrant, could believe this, for he knew that the ordinary west wind blew through the Tehachipi strong enough so that bullets from the east were blasted back clean down the Pass.

Down below the Sierra Madre, it was the Santa Ana wind which caused the trouble, as it blackened the sky with dust and rolled tumbleweeds from Puente to Gospel Swamp. This wind, which blew from the desert down the Santa Ana canyon, was named after the good St. Anne, for Portola and his men had first camped beside the little river on St. Anne's Day, July 26, 1769. In time, Santa Ana became the name of the river, the mountains, the town, and the wind. During later days, some inhabitants suggested the name of the wind was derived from Satan; and others, with even less knowledge of history, blamed it on the dust raised by Santa Ana's cavalry. In more recent days, an ambitious chamber of commerce has tried to persuade visitors that the wind is named after an Indian term, "santana," meaning "big wind,"

The Book Club of California

but no one yet has been able to find the word in any dialect.

Thus folk etymology continued, abetted by folk word building. Anaheim became perhaps the first of many Southern California hybrids, combining the saint's name with the German for "home." Meanwhile, further north "Los Angeles" had become firmly established as the proper shortening of the original flamboyant "La Puebla de Nuestra Señora de Los Angeles de Portiuncula." This in time was reduced to Puebla de Los Angeles. For a while it had appeared that the name would be shortened to "Puebla," as it was in connection with Puebla in Mexico, but the angels won out. Anglo-Saxon settlers brought about other changes as the town shifted its character. As seemed fitting, the Street of the Virgins disappeared entirely (just as Dos Pechos in San Francisco gave way to Twin Peaks) and, of the delightful trio of Faith, Hope, and Charity Streets, only Hope was retained as appropriate by the new settlers.

Within the Old Pueblo, "Doctor" Money, the eccentric religionist, who had, according to his story, been born "with four teeth and with the likeness of the rainbow in my right eye," attempted to further the reputation he had established in Sonora by debating the fate of the world with the seven padres of Pitaguitas, by publishing his *Reform of the New Testament*, and by preparing a much more formidable volume to deal with his Kuro Siwo currents, sometimes referred to as his Zwirro-Zwirro theory. This gave a thorough discussion of the alarming subterranean volcanic floods that swirled beneath the earth's surface and it gave dire prophecy that the crust was too thin at San Francisco to long stay intact. Money's theories did not seem extraordinarily bizarre to the Angeleños who gazed, open-mouthed, as two camels ambled down the Calle Principale in November, 1857. They were the vanguard of Uncle Sam's camels, introduced by Jefferson Davis in an attempt to solve the transportation problem of the Southwest. Here was an animal that would get fat where a jackass would starve to death; the terror of the desert was indeed minimized by a camel that had journeyed for ten days without water and then refused a drink on arrival. The local papers announced that the appearance of Hadji Ali (known locally as Hi-Jolly), the Syrian camel driver with his native costume decorated with jingling bells, encouraged weird and far-away associations with the

Quarterly News-Letter

Sahara and the Holy Land. Years later, after the camel experiment had failed, lonely men told of seeing the strange animals loom up on the desert.

The most constant subject for legend, however, was the adventurer and brigand, both Mexican and American. As Ross Browne wrote: "We can do as much murdering, robbing and stabbing as any people, and a great deal more catching and hanging." One name was not to be famous for many years, and then in another locale. Roy Bean, a Kentucky adventurer of doubtful antecedents, held forth at the Headquarters Saloon at San Gabriel during the early fifties, after his brother "General" Josh Bean was killed by the bandits and was avenged by the lynching of the wrong men. Roy Bean, after blustering about in Mexican trappings, was himself a victim of an abortive hanging, being, according to legend, saved only because the rope stretched so that his feet touched the ground. He shook the dust of Southern California from his feet to go to Texas, where, years later, he became famous for his profanity, unscrupulousness, and dirt, as he bilked the railroad tourists in his show of administering the "law West of the Pecos." As his biographer has stated: "we demand less of our folk heroes than we do of our street sweepers and ditch diggers."

Paragon among the badmen that made myths, though not as celebrated as the renegade Jack Powers or the ubiquitous Joaquin Murieta, was Don Ricardo Urives of the Rancho de los Coyotes. The current belief was that Urives, member of a well-known Mexican family, was a bandit for the fun of it, not for gain. Many yarns were spun of the amount of punishment in the way of shootings and stabbings he had taken during his periodic forays on Nigger Alley in Los Angeles. Finally it was a dirty little coward from the Bowery who got him with a shot through the back. But even after he died, he put up a good fight, twitching vigorously at propitious moments. After he was dead his arm suddenly twitched and shot his murderer squarely between the eyes. Again the body twitched and shot the gringo sheriff through the leg. It kicked the padre when he came to say the last rites over the corpse. Finally, the enraged citizenry lynched the corpse for good measure and buried it with difficulty. But Urives was not to lie contented. Years later, some paisanos who had drunk too much at a baile went out and dug up the coffin to satisfy their curiosity. They

The Book Club of California

received the shock of their lives for there was Don Ricardo's skeleton just twitching away like a gambler at a fandango.

Leonardo da Vinci's Library

BY DR. ELMER BELT*

IN A SERIES of show cases in the beautiful room of the *Library of Leonardo* at the *Mostra of Leonardo da Vinci* at Milan in 1939 were gathered one hundred thirteen books which Leonardo was known to have used as source books. These books were in the editions he used and consulted. Indeed, some bore his own notes in his right to left hand writing on their margins. This was an enormous library for Leonardo's day in the very dawn of printing. The first dated printed book we know of is 1454. Leonardo was born in 1452. Many of these books of Leonardo were in manuscript. Printing, while it brought books to the shelves of the people, was still frowned upon by some of the scholars and bibliophiles of Leonardo's day. Said the scholarly bookseller Vespasiano da Bisticci of Florence, describing the library of the Duke of Urbino: "In this library all the books are superlatively good and written with the pen on parchment, beautifully illuminated and bound in silver and scarlet—and had there been one printed volume it would have been ashamed in such company." How Vespasiano would have scorned television!

Leonardo called himself unlearned: "omo senza lettere." However, this great book display speaks for itself in regard to his book learning. Truly enough, being the greatest welder of science and art, with science then in its earliest beginning, it is much more important to each of these great realms of human achievement that Leonardo learned what he did learn from his observations of nature herself. He thus avoided many of the errors of his day. It would have been much better for Leonardo, for instance, if he

* Dr. Elmer Belt is a member of the Book Club of California and of the Zamorano Club in Los Angeles. His great hobby of book collecting has developed into a remarkable Leonardo da Vinci Library with an international reputation. The Leonardo da Vinci exhibit held at the Los Angeles County Museum in July, had on display the books this article refers to and other rare books from Dr. Belt's Library. Dr. Belt also has an international reputation as a urologist. He has done much medical research and has written numerous articles which have appeared in many journals.

Quarterly News-Letter

had not read in Galen that the septum which divides the two ventricular chambers of the heart had open passages in it permitting the blood to surge from one side of the heart to the other. Leonardo actually pictures such nonexistent holes through the ventricular septum. This error taught by Galen cost Leonardo the discovery of the circulation of the blood and added his name to those who believed instead in an ebb and flow rather than in the movement of the blood in a circle. While Leonardo preached original observations constantly and consistently throughout his life he by no means failed to seize upon learning from whatever source it came. His habit of making notes to himself as guides to further learning helps us to know the method he pursued in his search for book sources of knowledge. Such fragmentary memoranda follow:

The Algebra which is in the possession of the Marliani, written by their father.

A book which treats of Milan and its churches—to be had at the last stationer's on the way to Corduso.

Get Messer Fatio to show you [the book] on Proportions.

Get the Friar of the Brera to show you the 'De Ponderibus'.

On Proportions by Alchino, with annotations by Marliano from Messer Fatio.

The book by Giovanni Taverna which Messer Fatio has.

A treatise on the heavenly bodies by Aristotle translated into Italian.

Try to see Vitolone which is in the library at Pavia and treats of mathematics.

A nephew of Gian Amgelo the painter has a book about water which belonged to his father.

(Codex Atlanticus 225 r.b)

The Letters of Phalaris (Pistole di Falaride).

(Codex Atlanticus 234 r.a)

Evidence that Leonardo was a true book lover is contained in the following notations:

There is a complete Archimedes in the possession of the brother of Monsignor of Sant' Agosta in Rome. The latter is said to have given it to his brother who lives in Sardinia. It was formerly in the library of the Duke of Urbino and was carried off from there in the time of the Duke Valentino.

(Codex Atlanticus 349 v.f)

Ammianus Marcellinus affirms that seven hundred thousand volumes of books were burned in the siege of Alexandria in the time of Julius Caesar.

(Codex Trivulzianus 1 a)

The Book Club of California

One of Leonardo's note book pages, Codex Atlanticus folio 210 r, contains a book list; transcribing it, we find the following thirty-seven books:

Book of Arithmetic, Pliny, Bible, De Re Militari, First Decade, Third Decade, Fourth Decade, Guido, Piero Crescentio, II Quadriregio, Donatus, Justinus, Guido, Dottrinale, Morgante, John de Mandeville, De Onesta Volutta, Manganello, Cronica Desidero, Letters of Ovid, Letters of Filelfo, The Sphere, The Jestes of Poggio, Of Chiromancy, Formulary of Letters, Fiore di Virtù, Lives of the Philosophers, Lapidary, Letters of Filelfo, On the Preservation of the Health, Ciecho d'Ascoli, Albertus Magnus, Rhetorica Nova, Gibaldone, Aesop, Psalms, On the Immortality of the Soul, Burchiello, El Driadeo, Petrarch.

This list itself presents a challenge to the bibliographer, for Leonardo was interested only in making for himself a most abbreviated list of names and titles. From it we have tried to determine the editions he might have used among those printed in his lifetime in Latin and in Italian. Gathering these into our library has been great fun, for this "omo senza lettere" reached deeply into all fields of knowledge and his books touch upon every human endeavor.

Much research is required to recreate Leonardo's book list. In 1873 Count Gerolamo d'Adda published a privately printed booklet on this subject for his friends. This little book "*Leonardo da Vinci, e la sua Libreria, Note da un bibliofilo*, Milan 1873," was issued in seventy-five copies. We had more trouble in getting it than we had encountered in collecting twenty of the books Leonardo had owned. When it finally arrived we found that we possessed a dedication copy, signed by the author, with one of his calling cards tipped in; perhaps he signed them all. This little book is the source book for a study of Leonardo's library. Data of importance are also found in Edmondo Solmi's *Fonti dei manoscritti di Leonardo da Vinci*, Torino 1908, and in Pierre Duhem's *Etudes sur Léonard de Vinci. Ceux qu'il a lus et ceux qui l'ont lu*, Paris 1909.

Up to the present we have brought together the following:

Philosophy:

ARISTOTLE, *Opera*, Venice, per Gregoriu de Gregoris expensis Benedicti Fontanae, July 13, 1496.

PLATO, *Opera*, Venice, Bernardinus de Choris, August 13, 1491.

PLOTINUS, *Opera*, Translated with a commentary by Marsilius Ficinus, Florence, Antonio Miscomini, May 7, 1492.

AURELIUS S. AUGUSTINUS, *Sermones ad hermitas*, Venice, Rizus, 1490.

Quarterly News-Letter

History:

TITUS LIVIUS, *Titi Livii decades*, Treviso, Ioannes Vercellius, 1482.

PLINIUS, *Historia naturalis*, in Italian by Christoforo Landino, Venice, Jenson, 1476.

HERODOTUS, *Herodoti libri*, Venice, Aldus, September 1502, together with Xenophon, *Xenophon omissa* . . . , Venice, Aldus, 1503 (in Greek).

HERMOLAO BARBARO, *Oratio* . . . Bruge, August 9, 1486.

BERNARDINO CORIO, *Mediolanensis Patriae Historia*, Milan, Alexandrus Minutianus, 1503.

Mathematics:

EUCLID, *Opera*, Translated by Lucas Paciulus , Venice, A. Paganus Paganinus, 1509.

LUCIA PACIOLI, *Divina proportione* , Venice, A. Paganus Paganinus, 1509.

Grammar and Terminology:

PRISCIANUS, *Opera*, Venice, Hannibal Foxius, October 10, 1485.

MARCELLUS NONTIUS, *De Indiscretis generibus liber*, Pescara, 1511.

Astronomy:

J. DE SACRO BOSCO, *Sphera mundi*, Venice, Simon Bevilaqua, 1499.

Architecture:

LEONE BATTISTA ALBERTI, *De re aedificatoria* (On Architecture) , Nicolas Laurentius Alamani, January 4, 1485.

M. VITRUVIUS, *De Architectura libri X*. Venice, Leonardus Lauredanus, 1511.

Music:

FRANCHINO GAFORIO, *Angelicum*, Milan, Gotardo da Ponte, September 16, 1508.

Literature:

PHILELPHUS, *Epistole*, Paris, Gourmont [1505].

FEDERICO FREZZI, *Quatrigio*, Venice, Piero de Pauia, 1501.

Science and Medicine:

ALBERTUS MAGNUS, *De natura et immortalitate animae*, Nuremberg, Casper Hochfelder, July 5, 1493.

AULUS CORNELIUS CELSUS, *De Medicina*, Venice, May 6, 1497.

Diet and Cookery:

BARTOLOMEO PLATINA, *De Honesta voluptate ac valetudine*, (Pardonable Pleasures of Life), Bologna, May 11, 1499.

The scholars who assembled the material collected in the wonderful *Sala della Biblioteca di Leonardo alla Mostra di Leonardo da*

The Book Club of California

Vinci, Milano 1939, gathered the material as a loan exhibit from all the great libraries of Italy for the short period of the exhibition. It is a far different task to attempt to gather this material together into a permanent library of the source book material of Leonardo. This is what we are endeavoring to do in this library of ours which we hope will become a worker's library for the study of the Italian Renaissance.

Samuel T. Farquhar

BY THE DEATH, on May 23 last, of Samuel T. Farquhar, Manager of the University of California Press, the cause of good bookmaking lost a stout champion, and many a bookman hereabouts a warm friend. He was a member of The Book Club of California, the Zamorano Club, the Rounce and Coffin Club, and the San Francisco Club of Printing House Craftsmen, a founding member of the Roxburghe Club of San Francisco, and a prime mover in several other associations concerned with books and printing, including the Book Arts Club of the University of California.

Sam Farquhar was for some years in the advertising business, and then in the printing business, and always with larger ideas and broader cultivation of his mental resources than the immediate situation might seem to require. When business was slack in the depression years, he put a little more time into rereading Vergil with a friend and neighbor; and when the university had acquired his services, he improved the opportunity to review his Greek. When he was a printing salesman, he saw more in his samples than articles of trade; he studied printing and design, and learned his case and the use of a composing stick well enough to set with his own hands a small book. And when he became the successor to a man who for many years had been the university's printer, he already had a headful of plans for more than printing; he would develop a great university press. How well he succeeded in doing so, the record of achievement of the University of California Press bears witness.

A university press, he saw, could afford to lead, and he believed

Quarterly News-Letter

that it ought to lead, in the planning and design, production, and distribution of well-made books. "The Press believes," he once wrote, "that the well-printed book should 'serve first things first,' the very first thing being the clear transmission of thought from author to reader." And, elsewhere: "Scholarly printing can show the application of the principles of sound craftsmanship, and this it must do to fulfill its purpose." Of the wider purposes of book publishing, he wrote: "Scholarship would be sterile if its achievements were not printed and disseminated . . . The Press promotes the cause of free inquiry and the enlargement of understanding."

At the time of his death, he was a regional vice-president of the American Institute of Graphic Arts, and he had just been elected vice-president of the Association of American University Presses. He was at Princeton, New Jersey, to attend the annual meeting of that association, when he was suddenly stricken.

☞ Keepsakes

THE NEXT group of four "Clipper Card" Keepsakes are now at the printer's and these are expected to be in the mail sometime in September.

Your Keepsakes editor-in-chief, John H. Kemble, has done a most zealous job in gathering his material and in finding outstanding authorities and writers on early ships and shipping to contribute their efforts in making this perhaps the finest series of Keepsakes the Club has ever issued. This, in a manner, explains part of the tardiness in getting this notable series to the members. For example, in the next four keepsakes, John Lyman of the Hydrographic Office, Navy Department, Washington, D.C., has written the introduction for the card *Lookout*; Alexander Crosby Brown, Secretary and Director of Publications for the Mariner's Museum at Newport News, Virginia, wrote the introduction for the card *Ericsson*; Robert Greenhalgh Albion, Professor of Oceanic History at Harvard University contributed the introduction for the *St. Charles* and our own noted San Francisco historian, Oscar Lewis, the introduction to *Silas Fish*. Literally, a galaxy of authorities from the four corners of America.

☞ Gregory's Guide

MEMBERS will have received an announcement and order-card for the Club's next publication before this number of the *News-Letter* is distributed. A reprint of *Gregory's Guide for California Travellers via the Isthmus of Panama* will be the Fall publication. As early as January 1850, Joseph W. Gregory organized an express company to carry mail and insured shipments of gold dust from the mines to San Francisco and from there to the Atlantic Coast, Europe and China. He employed various methods to advertise his company, one being the issuance of

The Book Club of California

this *Guide*. Notice of its appearance appeared in the April 18, 1850 issue of the *Alta California*. The now rare pamphlet has been reprinted by the Club from a copy in the Bancroft Library, University of California.

Contemporary newspaper advertisements give notice of Gregory's use of light wagons in the collection of consignments of gold dust from the northern mines along the American, Yuba and Feather Rivers. An illustration depicting Gregory's office at Ophir, with one of his express wagons in the foreground, has been used to embellish the text, as has an "Extra" from the *Sacramento Union* telling of the devastating fire at Marysville, news of which was brought to Sacramento via Gregory's Express.

The small book has been designed and printed by Harold Seeger and Albert Sperisen at their well-known Black Vine Press in an edition of 350 copies. It falls in the low price range of \$3.00 plus tax.

Information about another current publication, the Wynkyn de Worde "Leaf Book," will be found elsewhere in this issue.

☞ Elected to Membership

The following have been elected to membership since the summer issue of the *News-Letter*:

MEMBER	ADDRESS	SPONSOR
Miss Marion B. Allen	Berkeley	Miss Edith M. Coulter
Henry Aheda	San Francisco	Gene Tansey
Andrew Baier, Jr.	Cicero, Illinois	Mrs. John I. Walter
Mrs. Herman B. Bercow	Brooklyn, N. Y.	H. H. Rosenthal
John Bright	San Bernardino	Mrs. Elizabeth Downs
John R. Brown	Oakland	George L. Gary
Herman Cohen	New York, N. Y.	David Magee
William Duddleson, Jr.	San Francisco	Warren Unna
Carl W. Dunlap, Jr.	Compton	Mrs. Elizabeth Downs
George E. Ebright, M.D.	San Francisco	Marshall Dill
Joel E. Ferris	Spokane, Washington	George L. Harding
Miss Margaret Jackson	Berkeley	Hobart M. Lovett
Mrs. Charles E. Kaiser	Los Angeles	Mrs. John I. Walter
Mrs. Karl Krauss	San Jacinto	Mrs. Elizabeth Downs
Mrs. James J. McClymont, Jr.	Berkeley	Frank A. Runnels
Charles Miles	Oklahoma City, Okla.	J. L. Rader
Joseph C. Nagy	Cleveland, Ohio	Edwin Grabhorn
John J. Niebauer, M.D.	San Francisco	Mrs. Elizabeth Downs
Allan J. Oppenheim	San Francisco	Carroll T. Harris
Miss Dianna Alice Plov	San Francisco	Harry W. Abrahams
Miss Sandra Sue Plov	San Francisco	Harry W. Abrahams
Robert S. Powell	Oakland	James R. Dalziel
Herman H. Rosenthal	New York, N. Y.	Herman Cohen
Frank A. Runnels	Berkeley	T. E. Tyron
Leon B. Russell	Atherton	Mrs. John I. Walter
Worth Seymour	San Francisco	Worth Hale
Ray Sisk	San Francisco	Lewis Ferbrache

Quarterly News-Letter

Harvey Starr, M.D.
 Frederick Thompson
 Rev. Howard Thurman
 Rudolf R. Tuma
 J. E. Turnbull
 Edwin J. Walter
 Stephen Walter
 E. R. Weed
 Edward G. Zelinsky
 Dean Hobbs Blanchard
 Memorial Library
 University of Washington
 Library

Los Angeles
 San Francisco
 San Francisco
 Los Angeles
 Eugene, Oregon
 New York, N. Y.
 San Francisco
 Coos Bay, Oregon
 San Francisco

 Santa Paula

 Seattle, Washington

Glen Dawson
 Flodden W. Heron
 Miss Rosalind A. Keep
 Mrs. Elizabeth Downs
 Carroll T. Harris
 Mrs. John I. Walter
 Mrs. John I. Walter
 Mrs. Elizabeth Downs
 Mrs. Elizabeth Downs

 Neal Van Sooy

 George P. Hammond

C Miscellany

THE DEATH in early August of Dr. George D. Lyman, noted San Francisco author, physician, and collector, deprived the Club of a member of long standing, whose advice and seasoned judgment on matters involving its publishing activities were frequently sought and always generously offered. For many years Dr. Lyman, who served a number of terms on the Club's board of directors, devoted himself to assembling rare books and pamphlets relating to California, gradually building up a collection that on his death exceeded 6000 titles, making it perhaps the largest Californiana library in private hands. In his later years he put this material to excellent use in a series of ably written and fully documented books on Western subjects, the best known of which are, *John Marsh, Pioneer*; *The Saga of the Comstock Lode*; and *Ralston's Ring*.

CLUB MEMBER Jackson Burke recently accepted the position of Director of Typographic Research for the Mergenthaler Linotype Co. at their Brooklyn headquarters. Mr. Burke had been a book designer and production executive at the Stanford University Press, and is an editorial board member of the *News-Letter*. He is also well-known as an authority on the craft of hand-printing, and on private presses in California.

IN LINE with our article on viniculture in the last issue, we have received from the printer-publisher-author, James E. Beard, of St. Helena, California, a well designed, nicely printed quarterly news-sheet called the "*Napa Valley Wine Press*." It is printed on good paper with a mast-head design by Mallette Dean. Mr. Beard has pointed his material to the amateur wine taster and it is written in a humorous, sprightly manner. To members interested in receiving it regularly, Mr. Beard has graciously consented to mail copies as they are issued. There is no charge.

From the same printer we have received a "professional" four-page news-sheet called "*Bottles and Bins*," issued from the Charles Krug Winery, St.

The Book Club of California

Helena, California. This also carries a mast-head illustration by Mallette Dean and a charming linoleum block illustration of the vineyard. The two news-sheets are equally well printed and designed but "Bottles and Bins" is more professionally written. The latter is infinitely better than most house organs and it is obviously written by a knowing writer and a professional wine taster. Interested members may be put on the mailing list by writing the winery direct. It, too, is free.

ENCOURAGEMENT of better book printing has always been a concern of the Club's membership. Frequently, this interest transcends mere appreciation of a finely printed book, and considers fundamental processes and techniques. Towards this end, George McKibbin & Son of Brooklyn are producing as books a series of monographs devoted to the educational advancement of book design. The first two of the series are perhaps too technical to attract the layman: *The Relationship Between Type and Illustration* by A. P. Tedesco, and *Some Trifles Which Make for Perfection* (covering footnotes, bibliographies and indexes) by Carl Purington Rollins. But the third in the series, *A Rendezvous With the Book* by Merle Armitage concerns basic precepts; and the physical aspects of this volume are typically Armitage from the double page title throughout. It is arresting, provocative and emphatic; but the text is largely repetitive of maxims succinctly stated previously by other twentieth-century designers. Armitage is an impresario: practically all of his designs—for all classes of text—are flamboyant, exciting, theatrical. You are apt to be more conscious of Armitage than of the author.

THE WELLS FARGO HISTORY ROOM

located in the Bank's building at 30 Montgomery Street, contains relics of pony-express and covered-wagon days; an original Hangtown stagecoach; early western franks and postmarks, firearms, pictures, and documents. ¶ Open to visitors 10 to 3 daily, 10 to 12 Saturdays.

WELLS FARGO BANK & UNION TRUST CO.

SAN FRANCISCO : ESTABLISHED 1852

Quarterly News-Letter

But the fact remains that both his designs and thoughts are stimulating, and members will undoubtedly benefit from a perusal of this, his latest creation.

IN OUR summer issue, 1948, we congratulated William Everson on his brand new Equinox Press at Berkeley and thanked him for the handsome announcement he sent us. We added that we were eager to review on these pages the first work of this press. Now, a year later, we have before us probably the most singular book that has ever been issued as a first effort by any press anywhere. The book is a collection of Everson's poetry (he is one of two poets who recently received Guggenheim Fellowships) called *Privacy of Speech*. The book is beautifully hand-set in Centaur type and printed in two colors, with engravings by Mary Fabili. It is printed on a hand press on dampened English Tovel hand-made paper. The complete binding was also done by Mr. Everson and the sewing is done on vellum strips which are themselves stitched to the boards. He has used vellum corners and he states "unless Morris used the incunabula headband, mine is probably the first *edition* to employ it in centuries." One hundred copies have been printed. This is a book that any fine printer would be proud to call his. Copies may be had by writing The Equinox Press, 2445 Ashby Avenue, Berkeley 5. The price is \$12.50, plus tax.

A PRIVATELY PRINTED memorial volume, extremely well planned and executed, has recently been issued for distribution to friends and associates of the late

JUST PUBLISHED

Joseph Henry Jackson's new book

Bad Company

The Bandits, Stage-Robbers, Outlaws and Stick-up Men of California's Gold Rush Days.

Containing more than twice the material of the author's *Tintypes in Gold*, now long out of print, *Bad Company* tells the thrilling and authentic stories of such men as Joaquin Murieta, Dick Fellows, Black Bart, Sheet-Iron Jack, Tiburcio Vasquez and a host of others—Bad Company but good reading.

Autographed First Editions available at

David Magee Book Shop

442 POST STREET (second floor) Telephone: EX 2-4230

SAN FRANCISCO 2, CALIFORNIA

The Book Club of California

Gregg Anderson, whose promising career in the graphic arts was tragically terminated on a Normandy beach-head in 1944. *To Remember Gregg Anderson* is made up of reminiscent tributes by members of four collectors' organizations in which, at various times, he played an active part: the Columbiad Club at Hartford, Conn., the Zamorano and Rounce & Coffin clubs at Los Angeles, and the Roxburghe Club, San Francisco. The eight presses that cooperated to produce this uncommonly handsome and appropriate little book—each providing one or more signatures—are: the College Press, Los Angeles, the Castle Press, Pasadena, the University of California Press, Berkeley, the Grabhorn Press, San Francisco, the Yale University Press, New Haven, Anderson & Ritchie, Los Angeles, the Meriden Gravure Company, Meriden, and the Cole-Holmquist Press, Los Angeles.

TO BE PUBLISHED September 15 by Harcourt is a book in the field of Californiana, Joseph Henry Jackson's *Bad Company*, (\$4.75), which will contain all the material in the author's *Tintypes in Gold*, published 11 years ago, plus as much again. As readers may remember, the earlier book covered the authentic stories of Black Bart, Dick Fellows, Tom Bell and Rattlesnake Dick, four of the picturesque outlaws and stick-up men who infested California's highways in the gold rush period and immediately thereafter. The new book, *Bad Company*, also tells the stories of such other bandits and stage-robbers as Joaquin Murieta, (a character who is 99 per cent legend, Mr. Jackson says), Tiburcio Vasquez, Jack Powers, Juan Soto, "Sheet-Iron Jack" and many more, together with a good

Material of all kinds relating to California and the West

Purchased & Sold

BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, MAPS, PRINTS
FILES OF PERIODICALS, MANUSCRIPTS
DIARIES AND PHOTOGRAPHS

The Argonaut Book Shop

ROBERT L. ROSE : ROBERT D. HAINES
336 KEARNY ST., SAN FRANCISCO 8, GA1-0866

Quarterly News Letter

deal about Sheriff (later detective) Harry N. Morse, one of California's first and greatest peace officers.

ARTIST VALENTI ANGELO, former San Franciscan, long known to collectors of fine books, has established in New York his own private press. His announcement states: "all work published by this press will be a one-man job from typography to presswork: cutting blocks, illumination of text pages, and all other decoration relevant to the enhancement of the printed page." We assume from further details in his brochure that Angelo will not himself attempt the type-setting or the actual printing: the "one-man job" apparently refers to typography, illustrations and hand-illumination. Book titles announced are: *The Book of Ruth and Boaz*; *Hymns To Aphrodite*; and *A Selection of verses by William Blake*; broadsides to be issued this year are: *The Twenty-Third Psalm of David*; *Beatitude According to St. Matthew*; and *The Lord's Prayer*.

THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS now being held throughout California have awakened in many thousands a keen interest in the history of the state, and the publishers have been busy supplying this growing demand by bringing out new editions of California material that has been long out of print. One of the most attractive recent additions to this group is *Rudyard Kipling's Letters from San Francisco*, just issued by the Colt Press, San Francisco. Coming soon are *The Shirley Letters* and Bayard Taylor's *Eldorado*, both published by Alfred A. Knopf, New York.

1888

Bird's Eye View of Placerville, California

(Hangtown) 24 by 32 inches

This lithograph was published by the Weekly Observer, Placerville, Calif. in 1888; W. W. Elliott, San Francisco, 1888, lithographer. It is mounted for framing.

The margins are reproductions of 24 public buildings and private homes, an index and descriptive matter. BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF PLACERVILLE has sold as high as \$30.00. We offer the few copies (5) to the readers of the Book Club Quarterly for \$7.50 each, plus Tax.

HETCH HETCHY, *Its Origin and History* by M. M. O'Shaughnessy, Consulting Engineer, San Francisco. Limited edition. Cloth bound. Colored illustration. Published at \$5.00. Now \$1.95 plus Tax.

NEWBEGIN'S BOOK SHOP

358 POST STREET

Opposite Union Square (Established 1889) Phone DOuglas 2-2808

The Book Club of California

THE SACRAMENTO BOOK COLLECTORS CLUB will publish in October a reprint of *Sacramento Illustrated*, first printed in 1855. Caroline Wenzel of the State Library has written a foreword, and the edition of 300 copies will be printed by Grant Dahlstrom's Castle Press of Pasadena. Indications are that the book will be of wide interest both as Californiana and as an example of fine printing. Grant Dahlstrom is known for his beautifully designed books. Further details are available at the Club's offices, 3183 Early Way, Sacramento.

VISITORS to the Coast this summer have included a goodly number of well-known bookmen from other parts of the nation. Among those recently in town were F. B. Adams, Jr., President of the Grolier Club in New York and one of the editors of *The New Colophon*, and Curt Buhler, Keeper of Printed Books at the Morgan Library.

IN 1497, five years after Columbus had discovered America, the Germans discovered Columbus. Then, an enterprising Strasbourg printer, Bartholomaeus Kistler, produced a long German narration of the explorer's *Grossen Wonderlichen Dingen*, using a wood-cut of a scriptural theme to adorn the tale. As survivors of this edition are rare, there was keen bidding at Sotheby's the other day when one was sold for \$8,400.

*Whatever your collecting interests, you will
enjoy browsing through our tremendous stock
of new, rare, and out-of-print books.*

CATALOGUES ISSUED : CORRESPONDENCE INVITED

WESTERN AMERICANA

The Holmes Book Company

ESTABLISHED 1894

274 - 14th Street, Oakland 4. Phone TWinoaks 3-6860